

Tom Horne  
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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## **HORNE WILL PUSH FOR STANDARDS ALIGNMENT FOR NATIONAL ASSESSMENT OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRESS (NAEP)**

(PHOENIX) November 14, 2003 – Arizona’s schools chief Tom Horne says the just-released measurements from the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) demonstrate the need for a re-alignment of state standards on reading and math to better conform with national models.

“In January, I plan to go to the State Board of Education and ask that the state standards be aligned so they will more accurately reflect the progress of Arizona students nationwide,” Horne said. “The Stanford 9 exam is a national measurement, and Arizona schoolchildren performed above the national average on that test. That test and the state’s AIMS test are the best indicators of how students are doing.”

“The problem with the NAEP is that children are being tested on things they haven’t been taught. That’s why it’s important to align the standards and get a measurement that truly represents the capabilities of Arizona’s students.”

NAEP measures reading and mathematics at the 4<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade levels. The test is conducted using a sample of schools.

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